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REMARKS

The examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to discuss any issues deemed remaining after consideration of this amendment.

A Fee Transmittal sheet is included herewith authorizing a charge to our Deposit Account No. 19-0365 for the required fees for the Petition for extension of time and the added claims.

Submitted herewith is a Petition for a two month extension of time. The grant of this extension makes February 20, 2005 the due date for response. Since February 20, 2005 was a Sunday, and February 21, 2005 was a holiday, the due date for response becomes February 22, 2005.

The present Office Action states that Claims 1 to 18 are pending in the Application and Claims 14 to 18 are withdrawn. Applicants believe the Office Action intended to state that Claims 1 to 19 are pending in the Application and Claims 14 to 19 are withdrawn.

Claims 1, 7, 8 and 10 have been amended. The amendment to Claim 10 was to add a period at the end of the Claim.

Claims 17 and 18 have been rejoined and amended.

Claims 2 to 4, 14 to 16, and 19 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 5, 6, 9 and 11 to 13 are as originally filed.

Claims 20 to 33 have been added. Support for the added claims may be found, for example, on page 20 at lines 10-14 (for Claims 20 and 21), on page 14 at line 6 to page 15 at line 6 (for Claims 22-24), page 15 at lines 7-13 (for Claims 25-27), page 15 at lines 14-22 (for Claim 28), the paragraph bridging pages 15 and 16 (Claims 29-30), on page 16 at lines 8-24 (for Claims 31-32).

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Claims 1, 5 to 13, 17, 18 and 20 to 32 are in the Application.

The amendment to the specification corrects obvious inadvertent errors. For example, from the remainder of the amended paragraph and the previous paragraph it can be seen that "LDA-TDF" should read "LDA-THF".

Also, for example, from the sentence bridging pages 15 and 16:

"The temperature of the so-formed reaction mixture is adjusted to between 15° and 40°C, and a third portion of 1.3 equivalents of LDA-THF is added over a period of 4 to 10 hours."

it can be seen that "is added of 3 to 10 hours" should read "is added over 3 to 10 hours"

Pursuant to the present Office Action, Claims 17 and 18 have been rejoined. Claim 17 has been amended to depend on Claim 1.

35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph Rejection

Claims 1 to 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for the reasons of record.

Applicants' specification does conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the Applicants regard as the invention.

However, in order to expedite prosecution, Claims 1, 7 and 8 have been amended as suggested by the Examiner.

The Examiner is thanked for her suggestions.

The Examiner is requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

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Duplicate Claim

The objection to Claim 3 is deemed obviated by the amendments to the claims.

The Examiner is requested to reconsider and withdraw this objection.

35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph Rejection

Claims 1 to 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for the reasons of record.

Applicants' specification does contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same, and does set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventors of carrying out the invention.

However, Applicants have amended the claims in order to expedite prosecution.

The Examiner is therefore requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Respectfully submitted,



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